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By this amendment, claims 45-57 remain pending in this application. Claims 33, 35 and 36 have been canceled. Claims 1-32 and 41-44 were canceled in previous amendments. Claims 53-57 are newly presented. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

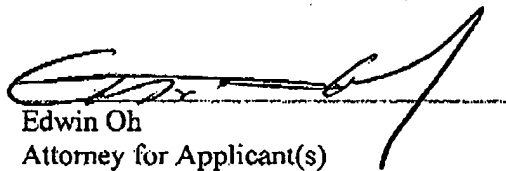
As an initial matter, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 45-52. In addition, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 34 and 37-40. The newly added claims 53-57 correspond to these claims, respectively, re-written in independent form, including all of the base limitations. In particular, canceled claims 34, 37, 38, 39 and 40 correspond to newly added claims 53, 54, 55, 56 and 57, respectively.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 33, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Roberts et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,171,181). As discussed above, claims 33, 35 and 36 have been canceled. Accordingly, the rejection as to these claims are now rendered moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that each of the presently pending claims are in immediate condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact the below listed attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

9/23/04  
Date

  
Edwin Oh  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 45,319

Edwin Oh  
Patent Attorney  
1105 North Market Street  
Suite 1300  
Wilmington, DE 19899  
Tel. 302-283-2137

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